CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

CONCORDIA'S DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE
IS OFFERING TO SCHOOLS
SPECIAL FREE STUDENT MATINEE PERFORMANCES OF
WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S
WITTY COMIC CLASSIC

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

DATES: Wednesday, April 15 and Thursday, April 16.

TIME: 1:00pm.

PLACE: D.B. Clarke Theatre, Henry F. Hall Building, Sir George Williams Campus, 1455 De Maisonneuve St. West.
Seating capacity is 350.

THE PLAYWRIGHT AND THE PLAY

Much Ado About Nothing was written at a period in Shakespeare's career when he had already achieved a great success as a playwright with such comedies as The Comedy of Errors, The Taming of the Shrew, Two Gentlemen of Verona, Love's Labour's Lost and The Merchant of Venice. The play was written around 1598 and reflects the maturity, skill in construction, and highly developed wit and humour that had evolved with Shakespeare's increasing experience of life and the further development of his craft as a dramatist.

There are three principal elements in Much Ado - the witty by-play and combat of Benedick and Beatrice in which our attention is centered - the bumbling low comedy and foolery of Dogberry, the constable and his watch and the ill-starred love story of Hero and Claudio

Despite the potentially tragic elements in the Hero-Claudio story, the play maintains its joyous lightness and gaiety. Assured that the outcome of even the serious scenes will be happy, the audience willingly abandons itself to the merry duel between Benedick and Beatrice and the hilariously comic episodes of the country constable and his posse.

Director Joseph Cazalet, a Concordia theatre professor is well known around the theatre community for his accomplished acting, writing and directing. He was recently seen in Saidye Bronfman Theatre's production of Up Your Alley, A.P.A.'s acclaimed Centaur production of The Caucasian Chalk Circle and the movie P.T. Barnum with Burt Lancaster.

Director Cazalet's vision of Much Ado is that of a world in which reason (convention) comes into conflict with chaos (rebellion). The phrase "a merry war" may best illustrate both the battle of the sexes between Beatrice and Benedick, and in a larger sense, the struggle between conventional and the unconventional approach to life.

LOYOLA CAMPUS
7141 SHERBROOKE STREET WEST
MONTREAL, QUEBEC H4B 1R6

The play will be set in the middle of the age of Reason about 1750, a world free - of necessity, of unlimited wealth, power and resources. It is time when absolute monarchy and social privilege has not yet been subject to question. This world is dedicated to the pursuit of the "ideal" - the good life, but in the absence of any real connection with the human condition, becomes preoccupied with game playing until the games almost destroy the ideals and the players.

CAST

Students of Concordia's Theatre Department - Vanessa Thomas (Beatrice), Desmond Gallant (Benedick), Emily Feldman (Hero), Martin Cloutier (Claudio), Hrothgar Mathews (Leonato), Jeff Skowronski (Dogberry), Mario Lavasseur and Grant McConnell (watchman), Paul Hawkins (Don Pedro) and Peter Cureton (John). Designers for the production are Professor William Reznicek (set designer) and staff member Robert Paquette (props), Susan Savage (costume design), Linda Bathory (technical director), and students Liam Callahan (asst. director), Gisele Grignet (stage manager), Robert Mancuso (asst. set design), and Raymond Boucher (asst. costume design).

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For further information concerning the special free school matinees and for reservations:

Contact Kathleen O'Connell or Dave Dobrofsky at the Concordia University Liason Office 848-4970

or write

Liaison Office
Concordia University
7141 Sherbrooke St. West
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Don't be left out. Please respond as early as possible to ensure you and your students don't miss this exciting educational opportunity.

FOR YOUR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

Opens for the public on Wednesday, April 15 at 8:00pm and runs each evening through Saturday, April 18, with a matinee on Sunday, April 19 at 2:00pm. Tickets are $4.00 for the public and $2.00 for students and senior citizens.

The Box Office opens April 6 at 6:00pm 848-4742.